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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Yang Shen

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EXAMINER

FULTON, KRISTINA ROSE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3673

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

12/24/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/582,198	Applicant(s) SHEN, YANG	
	Examiner KRISTINA R. FULTON	Art Unit 3673	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 August 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 7-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This Office Action is in response to the amendment filed 8/28/08. Claims 1-6 are cancelled. Claims 7-27 are rejected below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 21 is unclear as amended. The guiding slant and its purpose is unclear.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Armstrong (US 6860131).
5. Regarding claims 7 and 22, Armstrong shows a key-changeable lock, including a lock housing (12), a lock cylinder (14) for rotation within the lock housing about a rotational axis, the lock cylinder including, a locking block (94) slidably mounted on a

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periphery of the locking cylinder, and having a first working position and a second working position, wherein the locking block extends from the lock cylinder to engage the lock housing thereby directly preventing rotation of the lock cylinder (figure 7) relative the lock housing in the first working position and a second working position, wherein the locking block at least partially retracts into the lock cylinder (figure 12) to allow rotation in the second working position, a toothed piece (92) with a block groove (132) that moves to allow or block retraction of the locking block into the lock cylinder, a toothed slide (pins 113 with teeth 114) that moves in the lock cylinder, transverse to the rotational axis, the toothed slide having an engaged and disengaged position with the at least one toothed piece, the at least one toothed piece moving in a fixed relationship with the at least one toothed slide when in the engaged position, and in an independent relationship when in the disengaged position (column 1, lines 44-48), a sliding block (146) adapted to move the at least one toothed slide between the engaged and disengaged positions, and a locking hole (52) provided on or in the lock cylinder and into which a key is inserted, characterized in that insertion of a first key into a locking hole, moves the at least one toothed slide and in turn the at least one toothed piece, in the engaged position therewith, to allow retraction of the locking block and thus rotation of the lock cylinder, retraction of the at least one toothed piece into the lock cylinder, prevents the locking block from moving, and moves the at least one toothed slide to the disengaged position via the sliding block, and removal of the first key and insertion of a second key moves the at least one toothed slide and varies the relation of the at least one toothed slide and the toothed piece, due to the disengaged position, such that the

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second key now locks and unlocks the key changeable lock or subassembly therefore (see abstract and column 1 lines 34-60).

6. Regarding claim 8, the first key is removed and the second key is inserted with the cylinder in a partially rotated position (see column 1, lines 56-57).

7. Regarding claim 9, the engagement of the toothed slide with the toothed piece is via a toothed piece on the toothed slide engaging a toothed piece on the toothed piece, there being more teeth on one than the other to allow the independent relationship (figure 7).

8. Regarding claim 10, the block groove on the toothed piece runs parallel to the locking block, the toothed piece, blocks retraction of the locking block, other than when the toothed piece is moved to allow the locking block to retract into the toothed groove (figure 7 and 21).

9. Regarding claim 11, the locking block slides into the block groove, and is held in the block groove, by the profile of the lock housing about the lock cylinder, when the lock is unlocked (see figure 12).

10. Regarding claim 12, the sliding block is moved by the locking block via pins (toothed piece 113) extending between the locking block and the sliding block.

11. Regarding claims 13 and 23, a spring (96) is provided between the sliding block and the shell.

12. Regarding claims 14-15 and 24, a compression spring (115) is provided between the toothed slide and the sliding block.

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13. Regarding claim 16, the sliding block and the toothed slide move parallel to one another.

14. Regarding claims 17 and 25, the sliding direction of the sliding block is perpendicular to that of the toothed piece.

15. Regarding claim 18, the first key is invalid after the new engagement position has been established with the second key (column 1 lines 56-57).

16. Regarding claim 19, the sliding direction of the locking block is parallel to that of the sliding block.

17. Regarding claims 20 and 26, wherein a contactor (the surface engaging the key) is fixed on the toothed slide and located within the locking hole to engage the key.

Applicant is reminded, as claimed, a “contactor” can be anything that “contacts”. More structure should be claimed to better define the contactor.

18. Regarding claims 21 and 27, “as best understood” the locking groove is provided on the lock housing; when the locking block is located at the first working position, the locking block is received in the locking groove.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 7-27 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

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3. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KRISTINA R. FULTON whose telephone number is (571)272-7376. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH 7-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patricia Engle can be reached on 571-272-6660. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Patricia L Engle/
Supervisory Patent Examiner,
Art Unit 3673

/K. R. F./
Examiner, Art Unit 3673
12/21/08